

# NEBRASKA

## WEATHER & CROPS

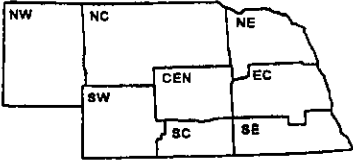
For Week Ending March 29, 1998

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National Agricultural Statistics Service  
U.S. Department of Agriculture  
and U.S. Department of Commerce  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin  
National Weather Service



**NASS** NEBRASKA  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS  
SERVICE

Issue: 04-98  
Released: 3/30/98 - 3:00 p.m.

Nebraska Department of Agriculture  
Division of Agr'l. Statistics  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Institute of Agriculture  
and Natural Resources--UN-L

### WEATHER

Temperatures across the State averaged five to thirteen degrees above normals for the week. Precipitation was widespread across the State with averages ranging from sixteen hundredths in the Southwest District to one and a half inches in the Central and Northeast Districts.

### GENERAL

Fieldwork was limited in early March due to snow and again late in the month due to precipitation across most of the State, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. During the last week of March, rainfall averaged well over one inch in the northeastern counties to a tenth of an inch or less in Panhandle counties. Producer activities consisted of limited oats seeding, spring tillage, stalk shredding, spring equipment preparation, grain marketing, tax and Ag Census record keeping, and livestock care.

### CROPS

Winter wheat condition rated higher than a year ago with 1% very poor, 5% poor, 20% fair, 56% good and 18% excellent. The crop was beginning to come out of dormancy with limited winterkill observed by reporters.

Oats seeding was 6% complete, behind last year's 16% and 10% average due to wet field conditions. Seeding was most advanced in the Panhandle part of the State with 22% sown as of Sunday.

Sugar beets field preparations had begun in the Panhandle.

### LIVESTOCK, PASTURE & RANGE

Pasture and range condition rated 3% poor, 35% fair, 57% good, and 5% excellent. The snow and rain during March has resulted in muddy feedlots. The cold, snowy conditions of early March caused health problems in young calves. Calving activities were 66% complete, near 64% last year.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MARCH 29, 1998	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER- AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
	PERCENT											
% Oats Sown	22	1	0	1	3	15	3	15	6	n/a	16	10
WINTER REPORTING AS OF MARCH 27, 1998												
% Cows Calved	83	66	39	65	63	72	74	56	66	n/a	64	n/a
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MARCH 27, 1997												
Days Suitable	5.8	3.3	0.4	0.0	0.2	6.2	1.3	0.0	2.3	n/a	5.8	
Topsoil Moisture - Very Short	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	6	
- Short	38	0	1	4	3	14	3	0	8	8	34	
- Adequate	58	100	91	92	62	85	76	25	74	89	55	
- Surplus	0	0	8	4	35	0	21	75	17	3	5	
Subsoil Moisture - Very Short	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	1	14	
- Short	18	7	23	20	9	14	6	0	12	15	77	
- Adequate	82	92	75	79	81	84	74	71	80	81	9	
- Surplus	0	0	1	1	10	0	20	29	7	3	n/a	

n/a = not available.

NOTE: National and Nebraska releases are now available on Internet @ <http://www.usda.gov/nass/>.

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS  
P.O. Box 81069  
Lincoln, NE 68501

Periodical Postage  
Paid at  
Lincoln, Nebraska

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture. Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for \$15.00 per year to non-reporters. It is also available free by polling our FAX at (402) 437-5547 after 3:30 p.m. CT. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

3/30/98

**Average Soil Temperature (°F 4-Inch Bare)**  
**March 15 - 21, 1998**

WHEAT CAN DEVELOP

CORN AND SORGHUM CAN DEVELOP

NOAA/USDA JOINT AGRICULTURAL WEATHER FACILITY  
Based on preliminary data

[illegible]

Station		Temperature				Precipitation
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches
		Max	Min			
NW	Chadron	80	22	45	---	.01
	Scottsbluff	80	28	50	+11	.45
	Sidney	78	29	51	---	T
NC	Valentine	81	30	50	+13	.26
NE	Norfolk	79	26	47	+7	1.33
	Sioux City	80	26	47	+7	1.57
CEN	Grand Island	76	28	49	+8	1.72
	Ord	80	32	50	---	.56
EC	Lincoln	76	25	48	+5	.96
	Omaha	76	27	47	+5	1.01
SW	Imperial	85	23	53	---	.07
	North Platte	81	26	49	+9	.79